

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE  
IN FAVOR of L.D. 63**

**LD TITLE: Resolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Allow Veterans with Lower Limb Loss to Obtain “Any-deer” Hunting Permits**

**SPONSORED BY: Representative LARRY DUNPHY of Embden**

**CO-SPONSORED BY: Representative CRAY of Palmyra, Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester, Representative GIFFORD of Lincoln, Representative Harlow of Portland, Representative KESCHL of Belgrade, Representative MALABY of Hancock, Representative McCLELLAN of Raymond, Representative TURNER of Burlington**

**DATE OF HEARING: February 12, 2013**

Good afternoon Senator Dutremble, Representative Shaw and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Bill Swan, Director of the Licensing Division at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking in favor of L.D. 63.

L.D. 63 would require the Department to amend its rules to require the issuance of an “any-deer” hunting permit, upon application to the Commissioner, to any veteran who has lost all or part of one or more lower limbs, not including a partial foot amputation, in the wildlife management districts that have “any-deer” hunting permit allocations. The Department is in favor of this bill in concept. There is an existing law already in place that requires the issuance of an “any-deer” permit to a person who is suffering from the loss of or the permanent loss of use of both lower extremities. The Department would request making the appropriate change to this existing law versus making the proposed change in rule.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time.